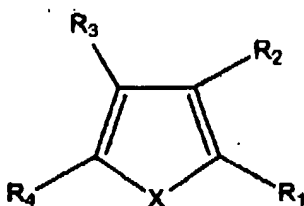


## Claims

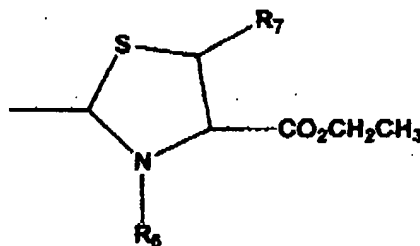
Claims 1-18 (canceled)

19 (currently amended). A method for treating sickle cell disease in a patient in need thereof, comprising the step of administering to said patient a compound of the formula:



where

R<sub>1</sub> is CHO or a thiazolidine group of the following formula:

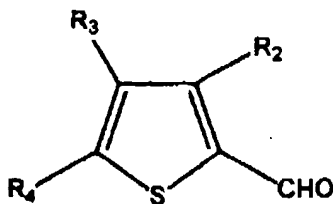


R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of H, OH, alkyl, halogen and hydroxy-alkyl; R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> = H;  
X = O or S;

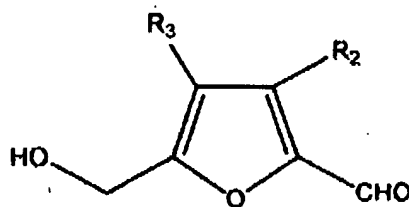
and wherein said compound is administered in sufficient amount to said patient to ameliorate sickle cell disease, with the proviso that R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> cannot be H or alkyl at the same time when R<sub>1</sub> is CHO and X is O.

20 (canceled).

21(currently amended). The method of claim 19, wherein R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> = H; R<sub>4</sub> is H, alkyl or hydroxyalkyl; and the general formula of the compound is:

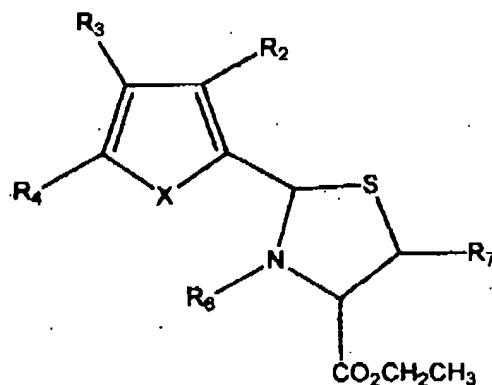


22 (currently amended). The method of claim 19, wherein said compound is of the formula:



where R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> =H.

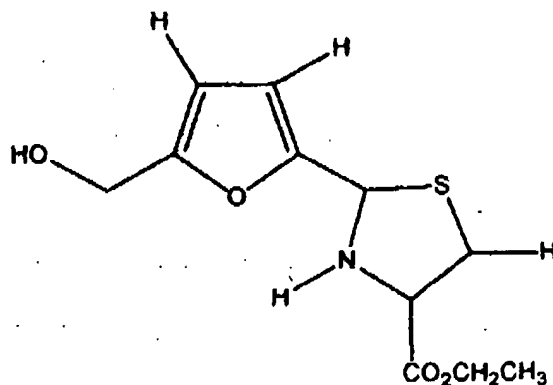
23 (currently amended). The method of claim 19, wherein said compound is of the formula:



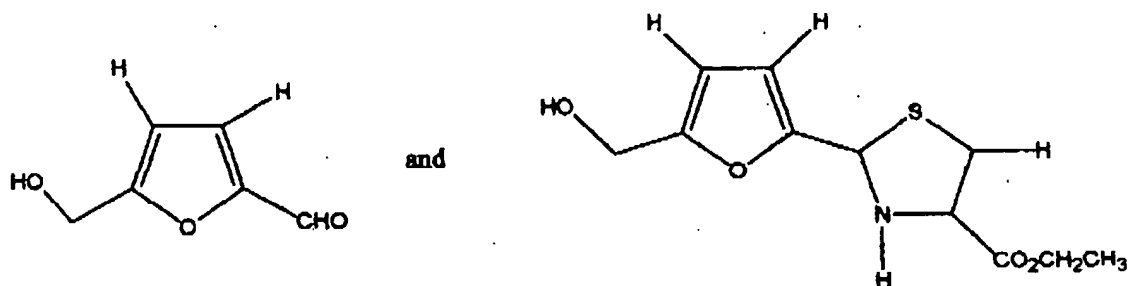
where

R2, R3 = H; R4 is H, alkyl or hydroxy-alkyl; R6 and R7 = H; and X = O

24 (currently amended). The method of claim 23, wherein said compound is of the formula:



25 (currently amended). The method of claim 19, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of a compound of the formula:



26(canceled).

27(canceled).

28(canceled).

29(canceled).